



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sasaki, et al.

Examiner: Misook Yu

Serial No.:

09/936,045

Group/Art Unit No.: 1642

Filed:

August 31, 2001

Docket: 188-88

For:

FUNCTIONAL ORAL

Dated: February 25, 2005

PREPARATIONS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty of disclosure, it is respectfully requested that the references listed in the attached form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. A copy of each reference is attached hereto.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on .

Dated: February 25, 2005

George M. Kaplan

The listed items were cited in a Search Report (copy enclosed) mailed

November 29, 2004 by the European Patent Office in a counterpart European application.

The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not an

admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to

patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable

consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)

Applicants submit that each item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior

to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 28,375

Attorney for Applicants

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(516) 228-8516

Form PTG-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 188-88		SERIAL NO. 09/936,045		
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OTHER LAND	TA [*]	TEME	ENT BY APPLICAN	NT	FILING DATE August 31, 2001		GROUP ART UNIT 1642		
				U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS				
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			NUMBER					YES	NO
		0841065		05/98	European				
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
		1.	Patent Abstracts	of Japan, Vol. 1997, N	No. 2, 28 February 1997 & JP 8-268905, 15 October 1996				
									
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED				
* EXAMINER: Ini Draw line through communication to	h citati	on if r	nce considered, w	hether or not citation is and not considered.	s in conformance with MPEP Include copy of this form with	609. next			

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])